



GOVERNMENT OF
THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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A Message from the Commissioner of Labor

Welcome to the Virgin Islands Department of Labor, an institution whose mission is to **promote economic growth and employment stability by developing, protecting and maintaining a viable workforce through effective programs and partnerships with government agencies, businesses, community organizations and other stakeholders.**

The Virgin Islands Department of Labor administers vital programs and services to the unemployed, underemployed, skilled, unskilled and disadvantaged adults and youth of the United States Virgin Islands through the Divisions of *Occupational Safety and Health; Workers' Compensation; Labor Relations; Job Service; Training; Unemployment Insurance; Hearings and Appeals; and Bureau of Labor Statistics*. We are uniquely entrusted with a tri-fold purpose. We are a service agency, a compliance & enforcement agency and an adjudication agency—we develop, protect and maintain. Each division is separate yet interconnected to provide a seamless array of services to our customers.

The role of the Department of Labor is very significant and vitally important to the economic prosperity of the United States Virgin Islands. It plays an important function in enhancing a stable and sound economy on which our living standards depend. The realities of today's Virgin Islands economy underscore the need for the Department to maintain and strengthen delivery of programs and services to our customers.

To accomplish this, the Department of Labor focuses on three main areas; namely, *Training, Employment and Partnership*. A strong private/public partnership that concentrates on training opportunities and employment helps to stimulate and strengthen the local economy. Understandably, sustainable economic development is intrinsically tied to and dependent on workforce development.

To learn more about the services and programs we provide, click on the links provided on this website. We encourage you to visit us frequently as information will be updated, and please feel free to send us your comments on how we may enhance our website to better serve you.

We also invite you to tour our offices, meet our staff and take advantage of the free printed information available. Our goal is to educate and empower jobseekers, incumbent workers, employers, planners, policymakers, researchers, service providers and decision makers by providing useful information.

Once again, *welcome* to the Virgin Islands Department of Labor!

Sincerely,
Pecil R. Benjamin
Commissioner

